

## Public Health in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Massachusetts Commissioner of Public Health Christine Ferguson invites you to attend one of 8 Regional Forums to discuss the state and local Health Departments' roles and responsibilities for public health in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. These forums allow for dialogue with the Commissioner, to contribute your thoughts and insights in helping shape the future of public health in Massachusetts.

Audience: Community Leaders, Health and Human Service Providers and Practitioners, State and Local Health Officials, Public Safety Officials, Interested Members of the Public, City and Town Planners, Public Private and Non-Profit Partners, and Massachusetts Department of Public Health staff

### Purpose

- Revitalize the vision for public health
- Build consensus on public health priorities
- Generate recommendations for action

### Agenda

- Overview and historical perspective of Public Health in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Initiative
- Regional Health Data
- Regional Assets and Challenges (panel discussion)
- Small group discussions with Commissioner

## Learning from the past Understanding the present Shaping the future

*"Massachusetts has a long and successful history as a leader in public health. We can build on that past, providing leadership to create a new identity for public health and all that we do. I have tremendous respect for the dedicated folks who have brought us to this crossroad which presents incredible opportunities and challenges. I hope you will join us at one of these forums to share your vision for the future of public health in Massachusetts".*

### Commissioner Christine Ferguson

If you cannot attend one of the scheduled forums your comments are welcomed by email to Commissioner Ferguson @:

[DPH.info@state.ma.us](mailto:DPH.info@state.ma.us)

Or

[Cathy.O'Connor@state.ma.us](mailto:Cathy.O'Connor@state.ma.us)

*"...many public health activities are invisible -you do not see them, but you see their results throughout the day... all of us use the public health system daily, whether we know it or not. We get up in the morning, turn on the faucet, and know that our water is safe. That is the result of public health. We sit down at the breakfast table and eat a more nutritious breakfast, and there are even "Nutritious Facts" on the cereal box. That too is public health. We get into our cars (or better yet, onto our bicycles) to go to work or school or elsewhere, and those cars are less polluting and safer, with air bags, seat belts, child restraints... All of that is public health. And when we get to work, even though our workplaces still have many hazards, they are much safer today than ever before and much safer than those in many countries. That too is public health."*

*Dr. Barry Levy, Former President of the American Public Health Association*

All locations are wheelchair accessible. If you require any special accommodations please contact Laura Innis at 617-624-6021 or by email at [Laura.Innis@state.ma.us](mailto:Laura.Innis@state.ma.us) as soon as possible.



## **PH 21<sup>st</sup> Century Regional Forums**

### **METRO**

Tuesday, October 26th 2:30-5:00  
Mass Hospital School  
Brayton High School Auditorium  
3 Randolph St., Canton

### **FAR WEST**

Friday, October 29th 10-12:30  
Berkshire South Regional Community Center  
15 Crissey Road, Great Barrington

### **WEST**

Friday, October 29th 2:30-5:00  
Holyoke Community College  
303 Homestead Ave., Holyoke

### **CENTRAL**

Wednesday, November 3rd 2:30-5:00  
Quinsigamond Community College  
670 West Boylston St., Worcester

### **CAPE COD**

Thursday, November 4th 2:30-5:00  
Barnstable High School  
744 West Main St., Hyannis

### **NORTHEAST**

Friday, November 19th 2:30-5:00  
Tewksbury Hospital  
365 East St., Tewksbury

### **BOSTON**

Monday, December 6th 3:00-5:30  
Location: To Be Announced

### **UPPER SOUTHEAST**

December 17th 3:00-5:30  
Location: Bristol-Plymouth Technical School  
940 County St. (Rt. 140), Taunton  
**Directions:** <http://www.mass.gov/dph/ohc/ohc.htm>

Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
250 Washington Street  
Boston, MA 02108-4619

# Public



# Health

in the 21st Century